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Chandler in Gubernatorial Race

David L. Chandler, whose magazine articles charging corruption in Louisiana government touched off a statewide probe, today jumped into the race for governor.

Chandler, in Baton Rouge, said he will file as a candidate tomorrow, "and if I win, a lot of the people who are running things now are going to jail."

An article last year in Life magazine by Chandler charged widespread organized crime influences in state government. It provoked the wrath of Gov. John J. McKeithen and led to the establishment of the Legislative Anti-Mafia Investigating Committee.

CHANDLER, 36, lives at 724 Gov. Nicholls in New Orleans. He is married and has one son. A native of Massachusetts, he has lived in New Orleans since 1960. He worked for several years as a copy editor and reporter for The States-Item.

The candidate said he will maintain "a policy of refusing all campaign contributions. I want to test the idea that it costs a million dollars to be elected to a major office in this country."

Chandler said he expects to get "at least 100,000 votes," but even if he doesn't win "at least I will have given myself somebody to vote for."

He said he plans to make formal announcements within the next few days, develop some issues, then go back to making a living until 10 days before the Nov. 6 primary.

CHANDLER SAID he plans to spend only $800 in the campaign, "which matches within 41 dollars my savings account." Of the total, $500 will go for qualifying fee and $300 for other expenses.

"Most people think that even the best of men go into office compromised" because of campaign contributions, he said. "I'm going to cut the Gordian knot by eliminating campaign funding."

He said he plans to make use of free coverage by the news media to present his views to the voters.

The other candidates, Chandler said, "offer no alternative to the professional politicians."

David L. Chandler